CONGRESSIONAL.

Thirty-Fifth Congress-First Session

THURSDAY, DEC. 17, 1857.

SENATE.

Hon. S. R. Mallony, from the State of Florida, and Hon. Sam Houston, from the State of Texas, appeared in their seats this morning.

A large number of petitions were presented, and refer-red to the appropriate committees; also, sundry papers

red to the appropriate committees; also, sundry paper were withdrawn from the files of the Senate for the pur

Mr. BRODERICK gave notice of his intention to intro-duce a bill to authorize and direct the payment of certain moneys into the treasury of the State of California which were collected in the ports of said State as a revenue upwere collected in the ports of said State as a revenue point imports since the ratification of the treaty of peace between the United States and the republic of Mexico, and prior to the admission of said State into the Union.

Mr. BAYARD gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to provide for the public printing, binding, and en-

Mr. WILSON gave notice of his intention to introduc a bill granting to the cities of Washington and George town one million acres of the public lands for the support

BANKS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Mr. SLIDELL submitted the following resolution

which was considered by manimous consent and agreed to:

Resolved. That a select committee of five be appointed by the President pro tempore to examine into the condition of the corporations or a sociations acting as banks of deposite, discount, and issue in the District of Columbia, and the authority under which said corporations or associations assume to transact the business of banking, with power to send for persons and papers, and to examine witnesses under oath; also, to inquire whether any, and what for the besides in the consent to regulate and conwhat, further legislation is necessary to regulate and con-trol banks of deposite, circulation, and issue in the Dis-trict of Columbia, and to report by bill or otherwise. The PRESIDENT protem accordingly appointed Messrs. SLIDELL POLK, BRODERICK, THOMSON of New Jersey, and HALE as said committee.

On motion by Mr. TRUMBULL, a resolution adopted that the credentials of the sitting members of the Senate from the State of Indiana, together with all the papers on file protesting against their right to hold seats, or relating to their election as senators in Congress by the legislature of Indiana, be referred to the Committee on

On motion by Mr. GWIN, a resolution was adopted that so much of the President's message and accompanying documents as refers to the subject of a national railroad from the Mississippi valley to the Pacific ocean be referred to a select committee of nine members. to be an pointed by the President.

pointed by the President pro tem.

The PRESIDENT pro tem. accordingly appointed Messrs Gwin, Douglas, Bright, Davis, Hunter, Seward, Bell.

Gwis, Douglas, Brioff, Davis, Huynes, Seward, Rid.,
Foor, and Ivanson as said committee.

On motion by Mr. SEWARD, a resolution was adopted requesting the President of the United States, if compatible with the public interest, to communicate to the Sente copies of any correspondence which may have taken place between the Department of State and the British and French ministers on the subject of claims for losses alleged to have been sustained by subjects of Great British and French with the benchming of Great British and French with the benchming of Great British and French with the benchming of Great British and French with here being the great of Great British benchming of Great British benchming of Great British benchming of Great British and French with the benchming of Great British and French with the British Bri and France at the bombardment of Greytown.

KANSAS AFFAIRS.

Mr TRUMBULL remarked that the resolution adopte vesterday, calling for the correspondence, orders, instruc-tions, &c., in relation to the affairs of Kansas, did not cover the whole ground, as only the governor of Kansas was mentioned, whereas it was well known that that of-ficer had been absent from the Territory a portion of the

ne. He therefore submitted the following resolution Resolved. That the President be requested to commu Resided, That the President of requested to communicate to the Senate all correspondence between himself or any of the departments and any governor, or other officer or person, in the employment of the government in Kansas Territory not heretofore communicated, together with all orders and instructions which have been issued to the governor of said Territory, or any other of the control of the in said Territory, in relation to Kanso

Mr. MASON asked that it might lie over. PUGH submitted the following resolution as a sub

stitute for that of Mr. TRUMBULL:

cate to the Senate copies of the following documents:

1. Return of the votes taken in Kansas Territory at the October election, 1856, upon the question of calling a convention to frame a constitution and State govern

Act of the territorial legislature (in obedience to that vote) calling such a convention, and providing fo the apportionment and election of delegates to the same The census and registration of voters, by counties
or precincts, as taken under that act.
 The apportionment of delegates made upon the returns of such census and registration.

Returns of the election by counties for delegates to the convention.
6. Returns of the last election, by counties, for

members of the territorial legislature and a delegate in Congress.

7. Proclamations of the governor or acting governor.

upon the subject of the census, registration of voters, and the several elections hereinbefore specified. 8. Journal of the convention held at Lecompton to frame a constitution and State government.

These resolutions accordingly lie over until to-morrow

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. FOOT, in pursuance of notice, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill for the relief of George P. Marsh, acres of the public lands to actual settlers. Also, a joint resolution as to the constitutional power of the Executive for the removal of commissioned officers of the army and

Mr. BROWN introduced a bill to authorize notaries

Mr. BROWN introduced a but to sushize hotaries public to take and certify oaths, affirmations, and ac-knowledgments in certain cases.

Mr. GWIN, in pursuance of notice, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill to authorize and facilitate the construction of a northern, a southern, and a central Pacific railroad and magnetic telegraph through the territo

He also introduced a bill to organize the Territory o Arizona, and to create the office of surveyor general there-in, to provide for the examination of certain land claims, in, to provide for the examination of certain and claims, to grant donations to actual settlers, to survey the public and private lands, and for other purposes.

Mr. PUGH introduced a bill for the improvement of navigation at the falls of the Ohio river; also, a bill to provide for a survey of the Ohio river and its principal tributaries; also, a bill to authorize writs of error in all

tributaries; also, a bill to authorize the cases prosecuted by indictment.

Mr. CLAY, in pursuance of notice, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill repealing all laws or parts of laws allowing bounties to vessels employed in the banks

laws allowing bounties to vessels employed in the banks or other cod-fisheries.

Mr. JONES introduced a bill making a grant of land to the State of Iowa, in alternate sections, to aid in the construction of a railroad from Keokuk and Fort Madison, through the southern tier of counties in said State, to the Missouri; also, a bill making a grant of lands to the same State, to aid in the construction of a railroad from McGregor's landing to the western boundary of said State.

The above bills were severally read twice and referred

immediately taken up for consideration.

Mr. SIMMONS did not see the necessity for the adoption of the measure, and hoped he would have an opportunity to examine the subject before being called upon to Mr. SEWARD hoped the bill would be read for infor-

tter whether they were prepared to vote for it or not The bill was then read. It authorizes the President cause such sums to be issued as the exigencies of the pub-lic service may require, but not at any time to exceed the amount of twenty millions of dollars, nor shall any notes be issued of a less denomination than fifty dollars. The notes are to be paid and redeemed at the treasury after the expiration of one year from their respective dates; and shall bear such rates of interest as shall be expressed upon their face. The first issue is not to exceed six mil-lions of dollars, and the rate of interest thereupon shall upon their sace. The first issue is not to exceed six mil-lions of dollars, and the rate of interest thereupon shall be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury, with the ap-probation of the President, in no case, however, to exceed six per cent, per annun. The residue shall be raised, in whole or in part, after public advertisement of not less days, as the Secretary of the Treasury may direct, by exchanging them at their par value for short acquaintance, however, impressed me with the be-specie to bidders who shall agree to make the exchange lief that, in the performance of the duties of a representa-

at the lowest rates of interest, not exceeding 6 per cent. provided that after their maturity the interest on said notes shall cease at the expiration of sixty days' notice of the readiness to pay and redeem the same, which may at any time be given by the Becretary of the Treasury. Payment or redemption of such notes shall be made to the lawful holders thereof, respectively, upon their presentation at the treasury, including both principal and interest; and the faith of the government is solemnly pledged to the redemption of the notes. The bill also provides that no notes shall be pledged, hypothecated, sold, or disposed of in any way, for any purpose whatever, either directly or indirectly, for any sum less than the amount of principal and interest thereon. Said notes may be transferred by assignment, and shall be received in payment of all debts and taxes levied by the authority of the United States, and in payment for the public lands. Authority is also given to purchase said notes at any time, at the proper amount of principal and interest. The remainder of the bill relates to the details necessary to carry it into effect, provides penalties for forgery, &c.

Objection being wade the further, consideration of the

Objection being made, the further consideration of the fill was postponed until to-morrow

The hour of one o'clock having arrived, the Senate proceeded to the election of a public printer. Before the balloting, however,
Mr. JOHNSON, of Arkansas, moved to reconsider the PUBLIC PRINTER.

All. JOHNSON, of Arkansas, moved to reconsider mesolution adopted yesterday, in order that he might insert a proviso in it, to the effect that the right is reserved to Congress to change or modify any or all the existing laws on the subject of the public printing, if it shall deem proper, and that such modification shall afford no ground of any claim on the part of the public printer to indemnification therefor. The motion was agreed to, and the

resolution changed accordingly.

The ballots having been received and counted, the result was announced as follows:

Whole number of votes---ary to a choice-----25

Mr. Harris, having received a majority of all the votes

ast, was announced as duly elected.

Mr. DOUGLAS remarked that he had not voted, for easons satisfactory to himself.

After the consideration of executive business, the Sen-

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House was opened with prayer.
After the reading of the journal,

Mr. LEIDY, of Pennsylvania, announced the death of his colleague, Hon. John G. Monroomeny, in the follow-ing appropriate address:

ing appropriate address:

Mr. Speaker, it has become my duty to-day to announce to you and to this House the death of my immediate predecessor, the Hon. John G. Monrooman, and the state of the Thirty-fifth Congress for the twelfth district of the State of Pennsylvania. Mr. Monrooman, was born in Paradise, then in Northumberland county, in the State of Pennsylvania, in the year 1805. When he had attained a proper age—having pursued his preparatory studies in the vicinity of his home—he entered Washington College, in Washington county, at which institution he graduated with honor in 1824, I believe a member of the same class with Gov. Wise, of Virginia.

Having completed his collegiate course, he immediately commenced the study of the law under the direction an instruction of the Hon. Alem Marr, formerly a member of this House, and a gentleman of deservedly high repu-tution as well for his legal learning and talents as for gen-eral intelligence. In the year 1826 he was admitted to practice in the several courts of Columbia county, and practice in the several courts of Columbia county, and soon rose to an honorable standing in his profession. Shortly after his admission to the bar he was appointed district attorney for the county of Columbia, and for several years continued to discharge the duties of that office with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the public. He continued the practice of the law successfully until the year 1855, when he reluctantly consented to become a candidate for member of the State legislature; was nominated and elected; and so well did he discharge the duties of that office, so ably acquit himself as a legislator, that, before the expiration of his first as a legislator, that, before the expiration of his first term, the public mind had fixed upon him as the next representative for the district on this floor.

representative for the district on this floor.

Immediately after his return from the legislature he was appointed a delegate to the Cincinnati Convention, in which he zealously labored for, and aided in, the nomination of our present Chief Magistrate, having been one of his callest and account of the content of the con of his earliest and firmest friends.

When the time for making a congressional nomination in the district arrived, he was nominated as the demo-cratic candidate for Congress for the twelfth district; and, at the ensuing election in October, 1856, was triumphantly elected by a majority exceeding 2,000; the largest majority which any candidate for Congress had received n the district for many years.

About the 1st of March, 1857, he visited Washington

About the 1st of March, 1857, he visited Washington for the purpose of witnessing the ceremonies of the inauguration, and also of attending to the interests of his constituents at the organization of the new administration; and while here, stopping at the National Hotel, contracted that mysterious disease which has proved fatal to so many of the sojourners in this city on that occasion. He remained here a few days after the first symptoms of the disease manifested themselves, and finding that he was still growing worse, he returned to his home in Danville, to avail himself of the kind attentions of his family and the services of his family absolute mysters of the family absolute mysters. family, and the services of his family physician, in who skill he had the most unbounded confidence, in the ho of a speedy restoration to health. But in this he w disappointed; and after lingering for nearly two months, his disease baffling all medical skill, he departed this life on the 24th of April, 1857.

on the 24th of April, 1857.

Mr. Mosroomay was a sound lawyer and able advocate, and well versed in all the general political questions of his day. He was fearless and free in the expression of his opinions, firm in his adherence to, and defence of, what he believed to be truth, and bold and uncompromising in combating error. He was a kind husband and father, a true friend, an estimable citizen, an honest man. I have thus briefly sketched so much of the history of his life and character as is proper for this time and

lace.
I may, however, be permitted to add that, in the death I may, however, be permitted to add that, in the death of Mr. Montonery, not only have his family and friends suffered a most melancholy bereavement, but the people of his district, his constituents, who had so recently given him a most flattering testimonial of their confidence, have sustained a loss which they deeply feel and sincerely deplore. They have been deprived of the services of one whose eminent talents would have soon gained for him an honorable position on this floor, and whose integrity and social qualities would have secured for him the confidence and esteem of his fellow-members.

I stand not here to pronounce his eulogy; but, hav-

I stand not here to pronounce his eulogy; but, hav-ing known him intimately for many years, in all the re-lations of life, civil, social, and professional, I would here bear testimony to his worth as a citizen, his virtues as a

bear testimony to his worth as a citizen, his virtues as a man.

Mr. Montgoment, at the time of his death, was about fifty two years of age. He had entered upon public life with a mind well disciplined, and a judgment well matured, and with a constitution, physical and mental, which gave fair promise of many years of usefulness and honor. But, alse! how vain are all human expectations! How uncertain all human hopes! With the brightest prospects, and the highest hopes, in a day when he looked not for it, and in an hour when he thought not, he was stricken down by an unseen hand. The grave, which was stricken down by an unseen hand. The grave, which never saith "it is enough," claimed him as a victim.

The dust has returned to dust, and the spirit has gone to God, who gave it. He is dead! How solemnly this TREASURY NOTES.

Mr. HUNTER, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill to authorize the issue of treasury notes; and as it was an important measure, and had the sanction of the Secretary of the Treasury, he asked that it might be immediately taken up for consideration.

Mr. SUMONS did not was the processity for the adea. Twice already, since our assembling here, have be called upon in this solean manner to remember that we are mortal; and to-day, for the third time, our thoughts are arrested and turned to the contemplation of death, the grave, and the future that lies beyond. May we all continually heed the solemn admonition, so oft repeated,

Be ye also ready.'

Loffer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the House have heard with deep and

Resolved, That the House have heard with deep and unfeigned regret of the death of the Hon. Jours G. Mosr-comman, a member elect of the Thirty-fifth Congress from the twelfth congressional district of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That, as a testimony of respect for the memory of the deceased, the members and officers of this House will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That the Clerk forward to the family of the deceased a copy of these proceedings.

Discovery or Old and Valuable Mesic.—According to the Paris Pays, there has just been discovered in the library of St. Mark, Venice, a collection of nineteen pieces of music in Stradella's own handwriting, remarkable for their melody and elegance. Up to this time it has been believed that nothing survived of the works of this remarkable composer but the famous hymn he was singing in the Sixtine Chapel at the moment the three assassing, despatched for the purpose by the patricians of Venice, were about to murder him. deceased a copy of these proceedings.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, this House do now adjourn.

Mr. FLORENCE. The very limited acquaintance that the deceased of the control of the cont had with my deceased colleague, the representative from he Luzerne district, hardly justifies me in rising at this time to say a word in sec

tive of the people of his district, he would prove to have been a good selection—prove to be entirely competent and equal to the performance of those duties. The suddenness of his decease, and the cause which produced it, made him almost a martyr, in political position, to the cause which he had espoused; coming here, as he did, to witness, to him and to the whole people of Pennsylvania, an event in their history, to whatever party they may belong—the inauguration of a Pennsylvania President—he contracted during that joyous tribute to the distinguished gentleman who fills the President's chair a disease which was the cause of his death. Sir, it warms us that in the midst of life, in the midst of health, surrounded though we may be with all the comforts of life, the unerring shafts of death may pierce us next. It admonishes us, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." I second the resolutions. I concur entirely in the tribute which has been paid to the memory of this distinguished gentleman, and regretting his decease, trust that the resolutions may pees. Previously, however, without desiring to interfere in this mourriful occasion, I would propose that when this House adjourns; it adjourn to meet on Monday next. Before the adoption of the resolutions, Mr. MARSHALL, of Kentucky, said that he regarded the practice of the House in adjourning on account of the decease of a member elect to Congress who had tive of the people of his district, he would prove to have been a good selection—prove to be entirely connectent and

PETITION, ETC.

By Mr. PHILLIPS: The petition of Mrs. D. Mims, praying the passage of a law authorizing the payment to her of certain amounts of loan, &c., &c.: referred to the Committee of Claims.

Ommittee of Claims,

Mr. FLORENCE gave notice that on to-morrow, or
upon some subsequent day, he would ask leave to introduce "A bill to equalize the army, navy, and marine

COMPLIMENT TO HON. H. J. ANDERSON.

Office of Commissioner of Customs, Dec. 4, 1857.

Sin: It is with sincere regret we learn that our official

onnexion with you is about to terminate by your resig-

nation of the office of Commisioner of Customs. We should do great injustice to our own feelings to permit

the occasion to pass without expressing our sense of th

ability with which your official duties have been dis

charged, the fidelity with which, during your official

term, the public interests have been regarded and pro-

tected. At the same time we would express our grati-

tude for the gentlemanly consideration, courtesy, and

kindness which have been so uniformly exhibited towards

us both in your official and social intercourse. While punc-

tuality, fidelity, and efficiency in the discharge of official

duties have, under all circumstances, been required, nothing has occurred during the period of our connexion to

listurb or diminish the feelings of respect and kindnes

Of the relations which have existed between us we

shall ever cherish the most pleasant and grateful remem-

brance, and in parting we respectfully and sincerely as

sure you of our kindest and heartiest wishes for your fu-

Very respectfully,

GENTLEMEN: In acknowledging the reception of you

riendly letter of the 4th inst. I beg to express my sin-

ere thanks for the kindly spirit in which you have re

ferred to our personal intercourse, and the complimenta-

ry and partial manner in which you have spoken of the

In retiring from the position which, during the period of more than four years, has brought me into almost

daily association with each one of you, I may be allowed

to express my gratification at the thought that the con-

nexion has been mutually agreeable, and the belief that

our labors have not been altogether unprofitable to the

government. To the diligence and fidelity with which

you have discharged your official duties I take pleas-

ure in bearing the fullest testimony, and I shall ever re-

In dissolving an association so wholly unmingled with

unpleasant recollections, I assure you I shall always re-tain a lively interest in your welfare, and offer you my

With the highest regard, I am your friend, &c

To Messrs. THOMAS FERAN and others, clerks in the office

Thomas Penny died at the Naval Asylum, near this

Thomas Penny died at the Naval Asylum, near this city, yesterday, aged 81 years. This gallant tar was one of the crew of Commodore Perry's flag ship Lawrence, and fought most nobly on board that vessel until, owing to her disabled condition, it was determined that Commodore Perry should go on board the Niagara, when Penny was selected as one of the crew of the boat that was to convey his brave commander. The passage was effected amid a storm of round shot and grape, which splintered many of the oars and so shattered the boat that when it reached the Niagara it was in a sinking condition. The character of the fight on board the Lawrence, in which this heroic scaman, Penny, acted his part with cool and determined courage, may be gathered from the fact that out of a crew of one hundred and three, fit for duty, travity two very filled and sizely three wonded. The passage of Perry from the Lawrence to the Niagara, under the fire of the enemy in an open boat, is justly regarded as a feat of personal heroism scarcely paralleled in the history of naval warfare, and it is but fair that the names of these devoted but humble men, who perilled their lives in the same enterprise, should be heralded to a grateful country. Thomas Penny was a true-hearted American sailor, and his messmates bear testimony to his many sterling traits of character, both on sea and land.—Philadelphia Pennsylvanian, Dec. 15.

The Buffalo Commercial contains the advertisement of

best wishes for your future happiness.

Thomas Feran, John D. Barclay

J. Bartram North

Wm. H. Codman

Thos. E. Martin, Louis Brand, H. A. Lockwood,

Chas. K. Sherm

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1857.

William Miller, Henry C. Stroma

Marston

H. J. ANDERSON.

with which you have been regarded.

To H. J. Anderson, Esq., Washington, D. C.

ture prosperity and happiness.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 18, 1867.

CONGRESS-THURSDAY.

SENATE.-A large number of petitions were preented and appropriately referred; also, several bills were introduced, of which notice had previously been given, the most important of which are the Pacific railroad bill, a bill organizing the Territory of Arizona, and a homestead bill.

A select committee was appointed, on the motion of Mr. Slidell, to investigate the condition of the banks of the District of Columbia; also, a select ommittee, on the motion of Mr. Gwin, on the subject of a Pacific railroad.

On motion by Mr. Trumbuil, the credentials of Messrs. Bright and Fitch were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, together with the protests resented at the last asssion against their right to

Mr. Hunter reported a bill to authorize the issu of treasury notes; which he will call up for consideration to-morrow. The Senate then elected Wm. A. Harris as Public Printer, and, after an executive ession, adjourned.

Before the adoption of the resolutions,
Mr. MARSHALL, of Kentucky, said that he regarded
the practice of the House in adjourning on account of
the decease of a member elect to Congress who had
never taken his seat, and with whom none of the members had associated, as setting a wrong precedent. It was
the first time in his congressional service that the attempt
had been made to fix the precedent of adjourning the
House on account of the death of one who had never
been sworn in as a member of the body. He desired the
gentleman from Pennsylvania distinctly to understand
that these suggestions did not spring from any indisposition on his part to pay a tribute of respect to the memory
of the deceased, but from a desire to get at the work for
which the body had convened.

Mr. STEPHENS, of Georgia, remarked that this practice was sustained by the precedents of the House and
the Senate. The gentleman from Kentucky was in error. In his opinion, the resolutions were due to the
memory of one who had been elected to a seat in this
House; therefore, he hoped that the House would conform to the precedent heretofore set.

The resolutions were then adopted; and the House adjourned. House of Representatives .- The death of Hon ohn G. Montgomery, member elect from the twelfth ongressional district of Pennsylvania, was anounced to-day by his colleague, Mr. Leidy, who delivered an appropriate address. Mr. Florence, of Pennsylvania, also paid a tribute to the virtues of the deceased, and, after the adoption of the usual resolutions, the House adjourned.

ELECTION OF SENATE PRINTER.

The editor of the Union does not stop to inquir what is usual or customary on such an occasion, but feeling grateful to his friends in the Senate, he hastens to tender them his sincere thanks for th election of Printer to that body, which they were pleased to bestow upon him yesterday. This mark of their confidence will inspire him continually with still greater zeal in the advocacy of those political principles which they and he entertain in ommon, while it will be his constant effort to perform the duty this election imposes in a faithful and accentable manner

He also makes his acknowledgments to his cotem oraries of this city for the very agreeable and con plimentary terms in which his nomination for the office to which he has been elected was mentioned in their respective journals

ARRIVAL OF THE VICE PRESIDENT.

The Hon. John C. Breckinridge, the Vice Pres lent of the United States, reached Washington yesterday morning from the South. He has his quarers at Browns' Hotel.

WHAT IS POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY?

We fear that some of our democratic friends are alling into a fundamental error as to the true neaning of territorial popular sovereignty. This octrine was incorporated into the democratic platform as the best constitutional solution of the slavery question. Until recently, we had supposed that there was an entire unanimity of sentiment as to its purport and meaning. Abolitionists controverted it in its inception, and maintained that Congress alonpossessed sovereignty in the Territories. They were forced to maintain this tyrannical principle in order to uphold the power which they claimed for the prohibition of slavery in the Territories. The public mind revolted at such an outrage on the great fundamental principle of American republicanism. It was the assertion of the doctrine of unlimited legislative power against which our fathers protested, and finally resorted to arms When driven by the force of argument and pub ic sentiment from this despotic assertion of congressional power, abolitionism went to the other extreme, and sought to make the doctrine of popular sovereignty subservient to its schemes for resisting and overthrowing all law and order in the Territory of Kansas, and of justifying open and flagrant acts of insurrection and rebellion. It was under this pretext that the authority of the regularly-constituted legislative assembly of Kansas was defied and resisted. It was on no other ground than a perversion of this doctrine that the Topeka convention aplied to Congress to have its com and the State admitted. It is upon the same misconstruction of popular so vereignty that abolitionism now

action of the late Kansas convention. If the democratic party has a plank in its platfor on which fanaticism can stand and resist the authorities provided for the government of a Territory-if the doctrine of territorial self-government can enable faction to run riot over law and order, and to commit crimes of the deepest dye with impunity-in a word, if popular sovereignty is to be made a successful cloak for insurrection, rebellion and treason it is high time that it be torn from our platform and rejected with universal scorn. But our political creed contains no such cloak for crimes and criminals, and the time has come once more when all true democrats should step forward to vindicate their faith. It is no more reason for us to repudiate popular sovereignty because bad men pervert it to crim nal purposes than it would be to repudiate liberty ecause factionists and demagogues seek to shelter their offences against the public good under the name of freedom.

resists and denounces as invalid the organization and

Let us understand distinctly what is popular so ereignty, and we can have no excuse for falling into the "fundamental error" of supposing that the reistance now being made in Kansas to the proceedings of its late constitutional convention can be justified on the doctrine of territorial self-government, The Buffalo Commercial contains the advertisement of the Lake Navigation Company for the sale of twenty of their vessels, owing to the embarrassments of the great commercial interests consequent upon the late financial crisis, cutting off the customary channels of accommodation. The capital stock of the late Navigation Company paid in is \$971,000, which is principally invested in sixty-two first-class vessels of the largest size, and five superior tugs, to protect and facilitate by towing in the rivers and harbors—a fleet with sufficient capacity to move 1,000,000 bushels of grain each trip. The property of the company at a low valuation is said to exceed \$320,000, of which \$200,000 is for vessels purchased the present season, and most of which is not payable till 1858 or 1859. The people of Kansas have the right to regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States. That is the general definition of popular sovereignty. It is not meant that every individual one of this people has a right to commit crimes with impunity. It is not meant that any number of individuals of this people have the right to disregard law and order, and to excuse their offences under the plea of popular sovereignty. When we speak of "the people" of Kansas, we speak of an organized political community—one living under an organize form of government. provided by Congress. When we speak of the right of this people to regulate their domestic matters 'in their own way," we speak of an organized political community exercising their right of self-government in a legal way, but that way adopted by themselves in grid conformity with law and order. Kansas is provided with a charter of territorial government. The provided by Congress. When we speak of the right

the community and to attempt to adopt another way that is not sanctioned by legal steps. Popular sovereignty, therefore, contemplates self-government according to laws enacted by regularly-constituted legislative tribu When the people of Kansas elected their legislature they performed an act of popular sov-ereignty, and their legislature then became "the people" for the enactment of laws on "all rightful subjects." It was not a requisite of popular sovereignty that those laws should be submitted for ratification to the popular vote. The enactment of laws by the representatives of the people is the act of the people, and is therefore legitimate and practical popular sovereignty. The legislature may, as often as they please, refer their acts to the popular vote, but that is not essential to the proper enjoyment of popular sovereignty. Those who opposed and denounced and resisted the laws passed by the Kansas legislature were not exercising popular sovereignty, but they were committing high criminal offences, and seeking to shield themselves by an abuse of a great fundamental principle of popular

In like manner we might proceed to illucrate the true meaning of popular sovereignty by referring to the act of the Kansas legislature which provided for alling a constitutional convention. That was a 'rightful subject" of legislation, and the people, to Il intents and purposes, called that conventiont was done by their representatives, and it was an exercise by the people of the right of selfgovernment. The convention which was chosen was the legal representative of "the people," and through their representatives they exercised their right of self-government by framing a con-stitution. Those who deny the legality and va stitution. lidity of the act calling the convention or of the convention itself, or of its proceedings and results, and stand out in resistance of this legitimate exercise of popular sovereignty, are guilty of a serious political offence which can never be excused or justified by an abuse of the doctrine of popular sovereignty. If we are correct in the meaning we attach to this doctrine, it follows that the President and those who support him on the Kansas question are carrying out faithfully the principle of the democratic party on the subject of territorial popular sovereignty. Democrats who oppose the administration on this subject should pause and ask themselves, WHITHER ARE WE GOING ?"

HARMONY AND UNION.

It is by no means surprising that the black-repubican press should exult over the possible estrange nent from the democratic party of some of those in the northern States who have, up to this moment, aided n its success and rejoiced in its victories. They distinctly perceive that their own prospects of ultimate victory are discouraging indeed, except through the division and separation of the dominant party. Their congratulations over the discontent of a few should admonish the latter of the possible effects that may follow their ill-advised course, and that, if persisted in, they must find refuge, where all other liscontents have found it, in the ranks of the opposition. We do not, however, entertain any serious apprehensions that the hopes of the black-republicans will be realized. On a single point there is a diversity of opinion among members of the demperatic party as to the proper policy to purme. The issue is a temporary one, that must quickly find its solution in the action of the people of Kansas themselves, or in the authoritative action of Congress. Wisdom and sound policy urge that no hasty lecision shall be pronounced upon a transitory issue which might array a section of the party against democratic administration and a great majority of its own members. The tone of the dissenting press justifies the assertion that such considerations are having their proper weight; all agree in utterly repudiating the idea that they can coalesce with the be removed the moment Kansas shall have been admitted into the Union as a State-an event that cannot now be long postponed. Thenceforth the Kansas question will cease to be an issue affecting national politics, and the people of Kansas will have no occasion to obtrude the management of their local affairs upon congressional notice.

We have indulged in the foregoing remarks in or der to introduce to the attention and approbation of our readers the subjoined article, in the same spirit, from the New Jersey "True American," well known as the leading organ of the New Jersey democracy. Its exhortation is well-timed, and the importance to the perpetuity of the Union of maintaining the integrity and harmony of the democratic party is by no means over-estimated : STAND TO YOUR ARMS. -The peace and hopes of the

STAND TO YOUR ARMS.—The peace and hopes of the country are centred in the harmony and union of the democratic party. It is now, as it ever has been, the only true national party. It alone puts forth principles of government clearly recognised by the constitution and the fathers of the republic, and presents a basis of governmental policy recognised and approved by a majority of the people of the country. Ever since the organization of the government its multifarious and delicate concerns have been successfully conducted principally by the application of the democratic policy, until the Union has enlarged its borders beyond the Rocky mountains on the west, and the Gulf of Mexico on the south. From a few sparsely-settled villages, we have swelled the number of our inhabitants to twenty-five millions—increased our commerce to the astonishment of the Old World—penetrated forests and laid bare to the smiling sun millions of cultivated fields, rich with the rewards of honest and frugal toil.

gal toil.
"All this has been accomplished principally by the infusion into all the departments of government the principles and administrative ability of statesmen of the democratic school. But, above and beyond all these considerations, democratic men and measures have interposed time and again, to stay the fratricidal hand of disunion raised to dismember the family of States, and to array in heatility the brethren of one common country. Faction

people are thus furnished with all the necessary machinery for governing themselves, and they have a right, in the working of this machinery, to regulate their affairs in their own wood, but this right can only foos are jubilant at the prospect of dissolution. The right, in the working of this machinery, to regulate their affairs in their own way, but this right can only be exercised in a legal way. Their charter provides for the exercise of legislative powers on all rightful subjects. It is either faction, or insubordination, or insurrection, or reeason, according to circumstances, for any number of people to disregard the legal way provided for the exercise of the rights of the community and to attempt to adopt another way the wise, prudent, and sagacious chieftain of our part nor any of its great leaders will permit a dissolution of the wise, prudent, and sagactous chieftain of our party nor any of its great leaders will permit a dissolution of those ties which bind the democracy of the Union together, nor will they permit any sacrifice of the great principles which have so long sustained us, and made our every effort successful. Stand to your arms, we say, democrats! But let them be pointed at the prowling enemy, who, under the guise of friendship, is approaching your camp; and not on the friends, who are with you and of you, and without whom you would be an easy prey to your releations force. your relentless foes."

Simultaneously with the receipt of the foregoing

from the northern section of the Union, we find in

leading southern cotemporary strong expressions of confidence in the continued harmony of the democratic party. The southern opposition journals lose no opportunity of representing the northern democracy as identified in sentiment on the agitating ques tions of the past few years with their black-republican enemies; and they have seized upon the cur rent embroilment as a new development sustain ing these misrepresentations. The party to which they once belonged having been utterly sectionalized and broken down, they seek to drag down the democratic party to the same condi tion. They pursue this course regardless of the fact that but one national party now exists, and in despite of the convictions of thinking men, that, when national parties shall have ceased to exist a disruption of the Union itself must inevitably follow Opinion in the two sections of the Union will then have become so utterly hostile that a longer political association will be intolerable to either. Such mis representations, however, have not and cannot impair the confidence of the southern democracy in the fidelity of their northern brethren to the principles of the constitution; nor will that confidence be dis turbed should another defection from its ranks occur, greater even than any its past history has wit nessed. It is with much satisfaction that we are able to quote from the Mobile Register, one of the ablest papers of the South, whose disposition to protect the interests of that section is proverbial. an expression of confidence in the northern democ racy fully sustaining the sentiments we have here expressed :

The Prospect Amad.—The prospect of a serious rup-ture of the democratic party, which its vanquished and vindictive foes have been flattering themselves would arise out of the Kansas issue, is by no means so imminent as was at first to be inferred from the violent denuncia-tions with which a few leading democratic journals of the North assailed the action of the convention. The indica-North assailed the action of the convention. The indica-tions are indeed quite encouraging in favor of the con-tinued harmony of the great body of the national demo-racy on this question. So far as the sentiment of the northern democracy may be inferred from the tone of the northern democratic press, there is a very strong manifes-tation that it approves and will sustain the action of the convention, and the admission of Kansas with the consti-tution which shall shortly be presented to Congress. Our northern friends generally do not participate in, but; on the contrary, condemn and reprobate, the factious clamor which a few of their journals have united with the black republicans in raising, because of the non-submission of republicans in raising, because of the non-submission of the whole constitution to the people. They are satisfied that every obligation which may have been reasonable held to rest upon the convention, with respect to the popular decision upon their work, has been complied with in referring to the people the determination of the slavery

prestion.

Such is the tenor of the views which we find expressed ocratic journals of the ablest and most influential dem-ocratic journals of the northern States, and we doubt not they reflect the sentiments of the great majority of the democracy of that section on this absorbing question As far as we are informed from the most reliable sources in Washington in regard to the sentiments of the democratic members of Congress, there is every reason to feel assured that the great majority of them are prepared to sanction the action of the constitution, and to give their votes in favor of admission. Let us not then indulge any votes in lavor of admission. Let us be the indulge any needless alarm for the harmony of the democratic party, nor allow any misgivings or suspicions to enter our mind-against the fidelity of our northern brethren, who have never faltered, as yet, in standing firmly and faithfully shoulder to shoulder, with us in defence of our constitu

OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH FRANCE.

We have on several former occasions invited the attention of our commercial readers to the prohibit ory and restrictive character of the commercial legis lation of France, and from tabular statements, predicated on the official returns of French commerce duing the past five or six years, we have ende to point out the immense benefits which would accrue to both nations by abrogating the temporary convention of June 24, 1822, and entering upon a new career of commercial reciprocity, which would invite the freest interchange of the products and manufactures of the two countries, and tend to strengthen the ancient and friendly relations which now so happily exist between them. Ever since the first introduction of the prohibitive policy in France, some two hundred years back, the genius of Colbert would seem to have breathed its restrictive spirit into the commercial systems of the various governments which have swayed the destinies of that coun try; and although for years past some of the might iest intellects, and at the present time, several of the most important and influential departments of the empire, have vainly struggled, and are still zealously engaged in the most vigorous efforts to abolish obsolete and ouerous restrictions of trade, and relieve

the industry and commerce of the nation of the incu-

bus which has so long pressed upon them, reforms-

tory movements and relaxatory decrees seem to be rather spasmodic than permanent the result of

ome critical emergency, rather than of any change

in the sentiments and policy of the government.

Our attention is again directed to the subject this morning by noticing in a recent issue of the New York Courier and Enquirer some strictures upon that portion of the President's message in which the subject of our relations with France is introduced, which are characterized by a spirit of captious criticism. utterly unworthy the grave character of the subject, and the dignified, statesmanlike manner in which it is treated in the message. The particular passage to which the Courier and Enquirer takes exception is that which says : "It is, notwithstanding, much to be regretted that two nations whose productions are of such a character as to invite the most extensive exchanges and freest commercial intercourse should continue to enforce ancient and obsolete restrictions of trade against each other. Our commercial treaty with France is, in this respect, an exception from our treaties with all other commercial nations. It